



# Trinity Topics

## **From the Rector's Desk . . .**

**By the Reverend Sherry Deets**

Dear Friends,

It has been a while since I read a book written by Henri J. M. Nouwen and I am astonished all over again at the wisdom of his writings. This May, I share with you an excerpt from his book "With Open Hands" which is about prayer. This is from pp 83-85:

When God asked Adam, "Where are you?" Adam answered, "I was hiding" (Genesis 3:9-10). He confessed his true condition. The confession opened him to God. When we pray, we come out of our shelters and not only see our own nakedness but also see that there is no enemy to hide from, only a friend who likes nothing better than to clothe us with a new coat. Certainly praying takes some admissions. It requires the humble recognition of our condition as broken human beings. However, prayer does not lead us to shame, guilt, or despair, but rather to the joyful discovery that we are only human and that God is truly God.

If we cling tightly to our own weakness, our faults, shortcomings and our twisted past, to all the events, facts and situations which we would prefer to cut out of our own history, we are only hiding behind a hedge through which everyone can see. What we have done is to narrow our world to a small hiding place where we try to conceal ourselves, suspecting rather pitifully that everyone has seen us all along.

Praying means giving up a false security, no longer looking for arguments which will protect you if you get pushed into a corner, no longer setting your hope on a couple lighter moments which your life might still offer. To pray

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means to stop expecting from God the same small-mindedness which you discover in yourself. To pray is to walk in the full light of God and to say simply without holding back, "I am human and you are God." At that moment, conversion occurs, the restoration of the true relationship. A human being is not someone who once in a while makes a mistake, and God is not someone who now and then forgives. No! Human beings are sinners and God is love. The conversion experience makes this obvious with stunning simplicity and disarming clarity. This conversion brings with it the relaxation which lets you breathe again and puts you at rest in the embrace of a forgiving God.

## **Trinity Art on the Walls**

**Check out our Trinity hallway walls for a moving collection of artwork and writings that give voice to the experience of young people involved with the justice system in Chester County. Thanks go to Betty Sullivan for partnering with and obtaining the prints from AHHAH's project, Justice Restored 3.0, for our hallway walls!**

Arts Holding Hands and Hearts (AHHAH) has been working with the youth of the Chester County Juvenile Detention Center. One of the projects, Justice Restored 3.0, celebrates the writing and drawings of young people from inside and outside the Chester County Juvenile Detention Center. On every page of the book, found on Amazon, their fears and hopes shout out in strong language and vibrant illustrations.

Through a collaborative two phase project this book came into being. The writing came first in response to a simple prompt: Who am I? Where do I come from? A powerful catalyst resulting in vibrant prose, poems, letters and essays which were then given to peers who used their artistic skills to develop accompanying illustrations. Each of these partnerships delivers a strong impact on the page.

Social injustice and personal struggles are common themes. In a series of letters a direct appeal to parents, schools, and members of the community is made. Page after page of Justice Restored 3.0 astonishes, provokes, and powerfully moves. Be prepared, this little book will take your breath away!

<https://www.amazon.com/Justice-Restored-3-0.../dp/B0B4FY7BJH>

**May 5 at 11 a.m.**  
**Trinity Coffee Hour Speaker**  
**Introduction to NAMI Chester County**

Join Executive Director Sara Wein for an introduction to NAMI Chester County PA, a local affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). NAMI was started in the late 1970s by family members who gathered together around a kitchen to find understanding as well as identify resources and supports for their adult children living with serious mental illness. Today we are the largest grassroots mental health organization in the US dedicated to improving the lives of those impacted by mental illness through peer support, education and advocacy. We are a volunteer-driven organization, and all of our programming is led by those with lived experience; our family support groups and education classes are led by family members and loved ones of those living with a mental health condition, and our peer support groups and education classes are led by individuals living with a mental health condition in recovery.

NAMI Chester County PA relaunched in January 2023 and is located in Exton, PA. Come learn about our free programs and support groups for individuals who experience mental symptoms, their families and loved ones and our Chester County community! For more information, please visit [www.namichescopa.org](http://www.namichescopa.org)

**Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> (Pentecost)**  
**Guest Preacher Kevin Ressler**

We are delighted to welcome Kevin Ressler, current CEO of the Alliance for Health Equity, to Trinity to share God's word with us. Kevin is also minister in the Mennonite tradition and brings a wealth of wisdom and experience to the Coatesville community. This is an opportunity for Kevin to get to know you and you to know him, especially in his role as CEO of the Alliance for Health Equity. Join us for service and coffee hour afterward!



<b>Carl Croft</b>	<b>2-May</b>
<b>Michael Fazio</b>	<b>5-May</b>
<b>Beatrix Kirwin</b>	<b>6-May</b>
<b>Connor McWilliams</b>	<b>11-May</b>
<b>Greg Bentley</b>	<b>12-May</b>
<b>Tony Carroll</b>	<b>12-May</b>
<b>Donald Carron</b>	<b>16-May</b>
<b>Haley Crane Grubb</b>	<b>17-May</b>
<b>Jack McGovern</b>	<b>24-May</b>
<b>Zoe McGovern</b>	<b>24-May</b>
<b>Debra Tillotson</b>	<b>27-May</b>
<b>Kathleen Deets Price</b>	<b>28-May</b>
<b>Beth Fazio</b>	<b>29-May</b>
<b>Al Carey Sr</b>	<b>30-May</b>



**Minnie & John Kirwin**      **26-May**

# May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesda y	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
				Healing Service 12noon		
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
Nami Speaker @ Coffee Hour 11am SH Rented	Bible Study 1130AM	AA 7PM		Healing Service 12noon		
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
Mother's Day SH Rented	Bible Study 1130AM	AA 7PM		Healing Service 12noon		SH Rented
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
SH Rented	Bible Study 1130AM	AA 7PM		Healing Service 12noon		SH Rented
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	
	Memorial Day Office Closed	AA 7PM		Healing Service 12noon		

## Readers, Servers and Greeters for May 2024

Date	Readers	Psalm	Prayers
5/5	Greg Bentley	Minnie Kirwin	Seth Haak
5/12	Bill Terry	Chris Haak	Deborah Murray
5/19	Vic Shanley	James Gaddy	Erika Haak
5/26	Kent Nation	Pat Bush	Betty Sullivan

**CHURCH OF THE TRINITY**

**323 East Lincoln Highway  
Coatesville, PA 19320-3409**

**For more information**

**contact:**

**The Reverend Sherry Deets, Rector**

**610-384-4771**

**trinitycoates@aol.com**

**Website:**

**www.trinitycoatesville.org**

**Mission Statement**

**Church of the Trinity is a congregation rooted in the faith and love of Christ, unified in diversity, seeking to grow and nourish the Trinity family and our Coatesville community.**

**Service Schedule**

**Holy Eucharist**

**Sundays 9:30 AM**

**Thursdays 12:00 PM**

**Jamoca Harkins,  
Parish Administrator**

**Parish Office Hours:**

**Mondays & Wednesdays: 1-3 PM**

**Tuesdays & Thursdays: 4-7 PM**

**THE EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH OF THE TRINITY  
323 East Lincoln Highway  
Coatesville, Pennsylvania  
19320-3409**

**Church School**

**Sundays: 9:15 AM**